

STATE SENATOR • GILDA Z. JACOBS • 14TH DISTRICT

Jacobs Press Release

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SENATOR JACOBS TO CO-HOST TOWN HALL MEETING ON WATER RATE HIKES

LANSING -- Sen. Gilda Jacobs (D-Huntington Woods) will co-host a Town Hall meeting with the Oak Park/Huntington Woods Democratic Club on **Thursday, March 25, at 7:30 p.m. at the Norup Middle School Media Center, 14450 Manhattan, Oak Park, one block north of Lincoln between Coolidge and Greenfield.** Guest speaker will be Gary Fujita, Deputy Director, Detroit Water and Sewerage Department. Joining Fujita in a panel discussion will be Jim Hock, Oak Park City Manager, and a representative from the Oakland County Drain Commission. Sen. Jacobs will serve as the panel moderator.

“While our local communities support and encourage regional cooperation with Detroit, many suburban residents are confused and unhappy about Detroit’s prescribed water rates for the 126 communities in southeast Michigan it serves,” Jacobs said. “We’re hopeful that this event will provide a forum for both sides to share facts and opinions.”

The Oakland County Board of Commissioners General Government Committee recently approved a resolution to place a moratorium on water rate increases by the Detroit water system until an independent audit can be conducted of how rates are set. While the vote is non-binding, it indicates the level of discontent that exists concerning recent water rate hikes.

“Escalating water rates are becoming a contentious issue in the suburbs,” said Julie Miller, Chair, Oak Park/Huntington Woods Democratic Club. “Residents are feeling overburdened by increases not only in water rates, but other utility and insurance rate hikes as well.”

For more information on the Town Hall meeting, please call: Julie Miller at (248) 542-9086.

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State Senator Gilda Jacobs represents the 14th Senate District, which includes Farmington, Farmington Hills, Ferndale, Hazel Park, Huntington Woods, Lathrup Village, Oak Park, Pleasant Ridge, Royal Oak Township, and Southfield. She is the Minority Vice Chair of the Families & Human Services Committee and the Economic Development, Small Business & Regulatory Reform Committee. She also serves on the Government Operations and Health Policy Committees.